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# THE SUFFOLK JOURNAL

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March 29, 2017

## THE GREAT FLOOD

*Suffolk University on-campus residents experience flooding in 10 West and 150 Tremont dormitories. Suffolk officials said there will not be compensation to personal damages.*

By Alexa Gagosz, **Editor-in-Chief**  
Chris DeGusto, **News Editor**  
Contributors: Kyle Crozier, **Journal Contributor**  
Felicity Otterbein, **Arts Editor**

It is last Wednesday night and on-campus residents across the university are attending to their daily activities, cooking dinner and starting homework, but unbeknownst to them water would soon be cascading from mainspace vents and pipes in the ceiling. Textbooks, tablets, a laptop, clothes, food, personal documentation papers and bedding were soaked and destroyed.

A discharge of steaming, black and musty hot water from heating pipes burst into the residency of multiple students. One in particular, senior government major Sabrina Young, who has lived in room 213 in 10 West since the beginning of the fall semester, said they and their suitemates initially speculated that the water may have been contaminated.

"I didn't know if there might have been something toxic in the water," said Young to a Suffolk Journal reporter on Thursday.

University Assistant Dean of Students Elizabeth Ching-Bush assured residents of 10 West and 150 Tremont dormitories in an email sent on Thursday night that the water did not pose as a health hazard, but an "inconvenience."

Young's bathroom and kitchen were flooded, and water protruded down the hallway as far as some of the bedrooms within the apartment. Young said an estimated \$300 worth of their own food was destroyed from the dark-colored water.

The fire department told Young and their suitemates to leave the suite for their safety and each of them were offered to relocate to a different room that had a vacant bed by the residence hall's

See *FLOOD* page 4

## Suffolk student killed after tragic accident

*Acting President Marisa Kelly on Yao Cao: "The loss of such a young life is a tragedy beyond words"*

**Patrick Holmes**  
Opinion Editor

A 2013 Audi A8 collided with the ceiling of a Massachusetts Turnpike tunnel in Boston early Sunday morning, which killed a Suffolk Student. Yao Cao, a 19-year-old first-year Suffolk student and the driver of the vehicle, was pronounced dead at the scene due to the vehicle becoming airborne and striking the tunnel. He was an international student from Changchun, China.

Cao, having only been at the university since January, was a finance major within the Sawyer Business School. Acting President Marisa Kelly sent out a statement Sunday morning to the Suffolk community offering her sympathies to those who knew him.

"As you join me in mourning the tragic loss of one of our students, please know that my thoughts are with all of you in this very difficult time," said Kelly in the statement. In correlation with her sentiments, Kelly held a moment of silence on Tuesday afternoon at the University Forum on the expansion of the strategic plan.

An unidentified woman was also involved as a passenger in the vehicle and was immediately rushed to a local hospital with non-life threatening injuries, but as of late Tuesday night, there has been no update on her condition. Based on information by the state police, they believe the accident was caused by "excessive speed and impairment."

"The loss of such a young life is a tragedy beyond words," said Kelly. Cao was a part of the Freshman

See *CAO* page 3



# University forum weighs heavy on rankings, international recruitment

**Alexa Gagosz**  
Editor-in-Chief

**Chris DeGusto**  
News Editor

Few seats were left vacant when Suffolk administration took center stage in front of concerned members of the university's community Tuesday afternoon to address the expansion of the strategic plan. Acting President Marisa Kelly began the forum by outlining a broad addition to the university's 2012 strategic plan that will be extended through 2019. This plan, which Kelly said will be tied to the university budget, will include a potential partnership with international student recruitment firm INTO University Partnerships.

Kelly, who tackled how to respond to the national decreasing numbers of traditionally-aged college students seeking a higher education in the Northeast, the high cost of earning a college degree, the challenges of international student enrollment and the external threat of local competition, said that the plan will reinforce "our historic mission but builds upon it in ways necessary to ensure our future."

Acting Provost Sebastian Royo introduced INTO as a resource that has 33 global offices as



Alexa Gagosz/ Editor-in-Chief

**Acting Provost Sebastian Royo introduced the recruitment firm INTO as a potential partner to increase international student enrollment at the forum on Tuesday. The proposal will be sent to be reviewed to NEASC by the end of the week. If approved, the Board of Trustees will then review the proposal.**

well as nine partnerships across the United States in predominantly public universities such as Washington State University, Colorado State University and the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

The partnership, which would be a commission-based entity instead of an outside contractor, according to Kelly, is

scheduled to be sent to New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) for review by the end of the week. After NEASC's approval, the Board of Trustees will then review and potentially approve it for it to be possibly implemented at the university by January 2018, according to Royo.

Royo said that with the decrease in international

student enrollment--from 1,509 in the 2015 academic year to 1,388 international students in the 2016 academic year--and the possibility of the new federal programs that President Donald Trump has looked to implement, raise questions with student visas.

"[International students] are worried that what they can do in the

U.S. will be affected by the policies of the Trump administration," said Royo.

Royo argued INTO would "increase our competitiveness in [the] international market" by leveraging enrollment through INTO's reach and developing a stronger global footprint. This partnership, Royo said, would allow the university to admit a selective population of international students who are aligned with the brand and prestige Suffolk represents.

Kelly, who spoke extensively on ensuring that Suffolk was ranked both regionally and nationally, said it was time to conquer external threats that both all colleges in the country are facing, but also those threats specific to Suffolk.

Managing Associate Director of Student Financial Services Jennifer Ricciardi spoke on incorporating new initiatives that would promote diversity and inclusion on campus, focus on human resources, amplify student organizations and the Athletics department as well as increase housing opportunities.

"It's Suffolk's goal to make an agreement of an externally funded housing opportunity to most likely be opened in 2019," said Ricciardi in an interview with The Suffolk Journal after the forum.

The university is

currently unsure of the exact location or if the new housing would require students to take public transportation just yet, according to Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration Treasurer Laura Sander in an interview on Tuesday. The idea of the externally funded housing would "most likely be a developer owning the property," but Suffolk would still have enough control, according to Ricciardi, where it would be a partnership, but not an outside contractor. The price, however, has not been determined as there are several conversations occurring on location still, but Sander hopes that pricing will be comparable to on-campus housing in Suffolk's residence halls.

"What's important is that the housing is accessible to students while also being financially affordable," said Ricciardi.

Kelly suggested in an interview with The Journal that the goal is to generate housing for undergraduate students to take up residence for two years and expressed her hopes for the potential housing for graduate students.

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## Students dedicate Spring Break to service, social justice training

**Haley Clegg**  
Photo Editor

For many college students, spring break is a time to unwind at home, visit friends and family, or enjoy an exciting vacation. However, some Suffolk students decided to use their week off from school to help those in need.

Each year, Suffolk's Center for Community Engagement sends students to different locations all across the country during winter and spring breaks to work as volunteers for different organizations. This year, some students spent their vacations in Colorado, Mississippi, Arizona, Georgia, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Senior Jessica

DiLorenzo traveled to Bel Air, Md where she worked with Habitat for Humanity. This was her third year with Suffolk's Alternative Spring Break (ASB) program and led this year's trip.

"I have a passion for service learning. It's such a great feeling to make an impact on someone's life who will never be able to repay you," said DiLorenzo in a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal.

Despite the trip being cut short due to a blizzard, her group made the most of their time and were able to rehabilitate a house, as well as work with the company "ReStore" who collects donated furniture and hardware and sells them to fund the housing projects.

"Every year I am shocked how well the groups come together and get to know one another," said DiLorenzo. "There is also a learning aspect where we teach students social justice curricular leading up to the trip so that students really understand why the work we are doing is so important."

Junior Global Business and Marketing major Hannah Drain was a part of the group that traveled to Meridian, Mississippi. Her group of 14 painted walls, hung drywall and worked on outdoor cleaning in order to restore a family's home, all while interacting with them and learning about the state of Miss.

"I learned so much about southern culture and hospitality. All of the

stereotypes that we had we were able to resolve. I learned more about why things are the way they are, as well as what the misconceptions are," said Drain in a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal.

Drain said she appreciated the experience and urged other students to take advantage of this experience. "It's a great opportunity to meet new people while doing something as powerful as Habitat for Humanity," she said.

Senior Public Relations major Cortney Holmes traveled to Denver, Colo. as a part of the ASB program. This was her fourth year, and has loved it ever since her first trip as a freshman.

"I think we have a duty to give back and work



Courtesy of Cortney Holmes

**"It's such a great feeling to make an impact on someone's life who will never be able to repay you."**

with not only our own community, but other communities as well, said Holmes. "I think it's easy for people to stay in what is familiar to them and only think about their experiences in the world."

While community service is the primary goal of the Alternative Spring Break program, students often learn valuable life lessons and build friendships with

their fellow peers. "It's a great way to leave your comfort zone with a supportive group of people that will become your friends. It's a way to realize the privileges we have as individuals and do our best to impact others," said DiLorenzo.

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FSL student remembered by Suffolk community

From CAO page 3

Second Language (FSL) pathways program, according to the university. The program aims to “provide students with the opportunity to earn academic credit in a supportive environment.”

Apart from State Police, there were also Boston firefighters, EMS and MassDot officials on the scene of the wreckage, which ripped down many cables and wires from the tunnel.

Cao had resided in Chestnut Hill in Brookline during his time at Suffolk. A memorial service is still in the process being arranged.

CORRECTION

Due to an error from sources, a previous version “University’s united push for diversity, the rocky road to inclusivity,” that was printed in the 14th edition, included that the Board of Trustees will also review the proposal to find a new Chief Diversity Inclusion Officer. This is incorrect as only Acting President Marisa Kelly and upper administration will be reviewing this after the Task Force proposes it.

Suffolk students’ stock market schooling in blog

Chris DeGusto  
News Editor

After the market crashed in the waning months of 2008, many people both enveloped within the industry and those seeking to profit off the trading of stocks, have been skeptical of the risks that come with investing their hard earned money. Last fall, two Suffolk University seniors launched an online financial blog, “Imperium Investment Analysis” (Imperium) to educate and inform current and prospect investors of the risks the stock market presents, and provide their own advice so readers and investors alike can formulate their own money-making formula.

“I’m a 22-year-old guy that wants to teach people from my experiences so you don’t get scammed out of your money like I did,” said Trenton Barnard.

Barnard, a senior who has acted as a portfolio manager for the Suffolk University Student Investment Fund, came to Suffolk from Utah, founded Imperium last October and the first blog post was published the following month. Barnard, a philosophy major, told a Suffolk Journal reporter in a recent interview that he initially made his first sum of money in stocks by investing in the Twitter IPO, and would often skip classes to trade. The former analyst for a Boston-based investment firm, Barnard quit his full-time employment in the fall to devote his time to Imperium.

Barnard quickly found a partner for his



Cam Chang/ Journal Contributor

Left: Yashpal Balgobin Right: Trenton Barnard

work, senior finance major Yashpal Balgobin, and said Balgobin’s passion and dedication to learning allowed no hesitations when bringing him on board. Barnard said Balgobin was very

academically and practically valuable according to Barnard. Currently, Imperium operates as a free subscription, posting weekly stock lists and technical tips. This

product customers could purchase. A complete package of resources at a one-time flat rate is the goal for Imperium, which Barnard would consist of investment education products, e-book and a

“I’m a 22-year-old guy that wants to teach people from my experiences so you don’t get scammed out of your money like I did.”

-Trenton Barnard

apt to educating himself, by asking which tools he could utilize to create an influx of knowledge on the subject.

“I look up to this guy. He knows so much,” said Balgobin of Barnard in a recent interview with The Journal.

At Imperium, the goal is to create high-quality business and financial content that

readership is at no cost and is something Barnard intends to permanently keep.

“If you focus on delivering real, valuable content to people over money, the profits will follow,” said Barnard.

Bannard discussed that Imperium’s gameplan for this summer could potentially fruitify an inclusive

tailored program. This would allow investors using this package to uniquely view different methods based upon their personal interests and strategies, while also having the ability to view the entirety of Imperium’s content.

“We are giving you the knowledge and education [for people] to build their own adventure,” said

Balgobin.

Balgobin’s own investing adventure did not begin in the most prosperous manner, as he lost close to \$1000 on penny stocks. Having followed another trader’s “get rich quick” system and seeing the results not forthcoming, Balgobin said he took a step back, closed his portfolio, and absorbed the knowledge he would need to build his own strategy of investing.

He said other traders will sell you a platform and only one way to trade stocks, but Imperium is detail oriented, and has focused on being real with people to show them how to hone their craft.

“We want to make you an independent investor,” said Barnard.

Barnard said he hopes to have co-sponsorships with firms in the future, but specified he wants to keep the Imperium website ad-free so that readers can focus on the content provided.

He said that people do not have the leverage with their money that they would like, to be able to exercise their finances on vacations, or making student loan payments. Trust from customers is a key factor for Balgobin, who said people do not have to spend thousands of dollars [like other programs charge] to access and utilize this investing information. He said it is essential to that the two partners at Imperium take time out of their days to deliver quality content to help investors “unlock another financial key.”

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THE SUFFOLK JOURNAL

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# Students misplaced, no timeline for repairs as of yet

From *FLOOD* page 1

Director Jessica Wheeler. Each of the suitemates declined to enter "a stranger's dorm," according to Young.

Wheeler declined to be interviewed for this article on Tuesday night.

Also equally as shocked were the residents of room 408, who described how a typically normal scene of cooking dinner ended with water being sprayed down on them from above.

"It sounded like an earthquake, like the ceiling was going to come through," said one of the female residents.

For days, the main door to Young's suite was propped open, but the residents were not officially allowed inside to retrieve their belongings unless they contacted Suffolk University Police Department (SUPD), according to Young.

"We weren't told the room would be left open all day. There are definitely personal items that I know have been left behind that I [now] can't locate," said Young.

Industrial dehumidifiers and fans were placed around the affected suites by Pro-Care Disaster Restoration Services. One employee of the company expressed that their current job was to clean and dry the rooms before further actions were taken, but some residents were not satisfied with this process.

Young's concern lied not in the heating pipes, but in the carpets, fearing that mold would have already spawned and spread in such a short time.

"It's honestly not good enough for me," said Young. "They better be ripping the carpets out and replacing it [because of] the likelihood of mold already growing even after one hour."

However, it was not only Suffolk students affected by the pipes bursting. Just below some of the resident halls is both the Back Deck restaurant and Boston Common Coffee Company-- both of which pay rent to the university. Back Deck said that they received minimal damage and were able to open the following night for

dinner. However, Boston Common Coffee expects to remain closed for an additional week or two.

Co-owner of Boston Common Coffee Tony Massari said in a phone interview with The Suffolk Journal on Tuesday night that three different pipes bursted, which caused damage to the shop's retail merchandise, coffee and sitting areas.

"[Suffolk University] has been great," said Massari. "But now the insurance has to handle things."

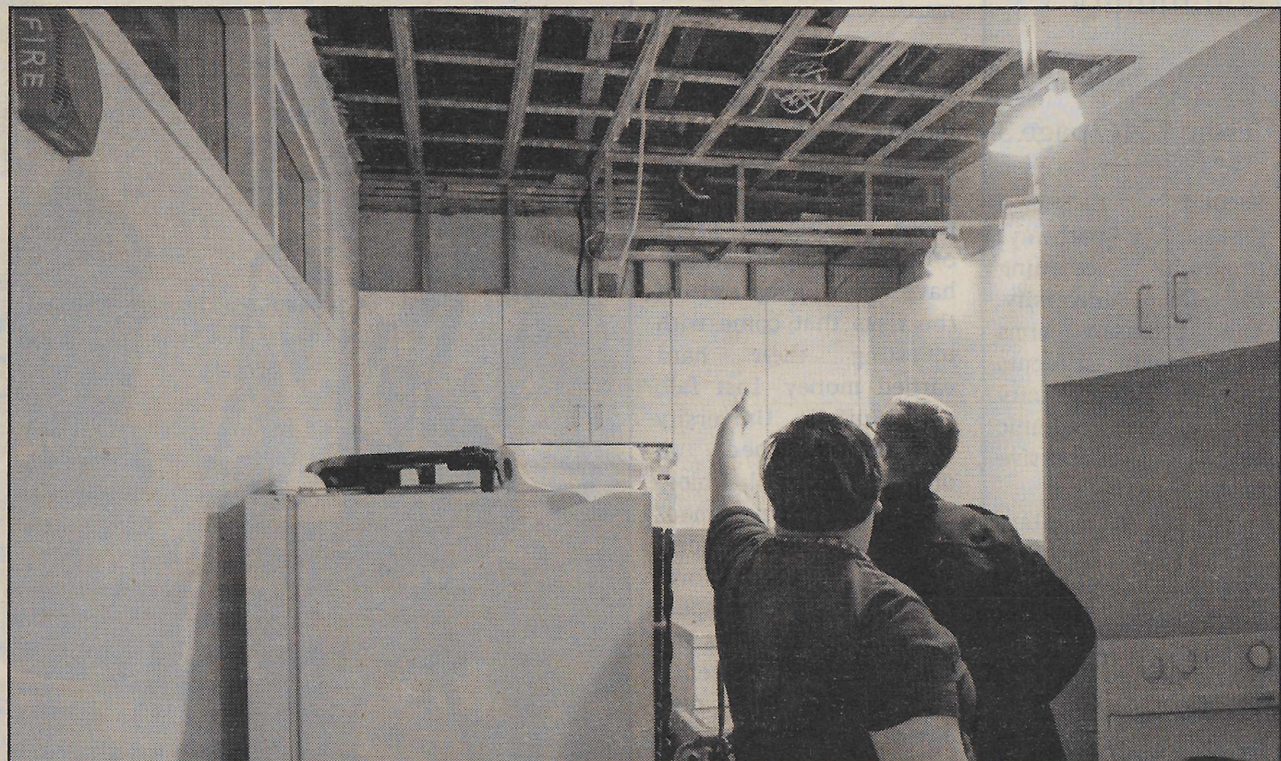
Massari explained that he and his partner, Peter Femino, have experienced water damage at their Canal Street location in the past when the shop was closed for four days. Yet this time, the co-owners will have to file for both damages and loss of business.

In total, 46 student residents across 150 Tremont and 10 West have been affected by water damage throughout the month of March. Gia Sarkis, a resident of room 313 in 10 West explained that she too felt uncomfortable with the idea of staying with new people.

"The first night I stayed in a hotel that my mom paid for, I went home for the weekend, and now I am staying on my friends couch at her apartment because I feel uncomfortable staying with a random person," said Sarkis in an interview with The Journal on Monday.

Sarkis said that she was informed her finances will not be reimbursed for her hotel stay. Students who have experienced damage to their personal belongings will not be compensated for their loss, as residents were encouraged to purchase renter's insurance at their orientations.

"The student understands that the University is not liable for loss or damage to their personal property whether by way of fire, flood, accident, Act of God, loss or interruption of heat, electricity, air conditioning, burglary, theft, vandalism, or for whatever reason not directly, proximately and consequentially the result of the sole and exclusive negligence or misconduct of the University," reads



Kyle Crozier/ Journal Contributor

Residents invited Journal reporters inside their suites in 10 West on Thursday night.

**"It sounded like an earthquake, like the ceiling was going to come through."**

**-A resident from the 10 West dormitories when the pipes bursted**



Alexa Gagosz/ Editor-in-Chief

Contractors hauled equipment in and out of the 10 West dormitories throughout Thursday and Friday.

the University policy on Liability for Student Property.

A university spokesperson said that Residence Life staff met with the affected students in order to assist with room relocation. He said that Ching-Bush conducted small meetings with each of the students in order to discuss what occurred.

Ching-Bush did not respond to Journal reporters for an interview as of Tuesday night.

Director of Construction Services Andre Vega said in an interview on Tuesday afternoon that an outside contractor went into the dormitories and assessed how long it would take to repair the damages. Insurance adjusters went

into the dormitories both Monday and Tuesday to assess the amount of money it would cost to repair the affected areas of the buildings. Vega said that he will oversee the drying out and construction phase as he said the pipes were already repaired.

Vega confirmed that the pipes that had bursted were heating pipes and "warm water" had leaked into the residents' rooms. Vega was not able to give an approximate temperature of the water.

Michal Kanra, a sophomore living in room 214 of 10 West, awoke to the sound of his roommate stepping off his bed and onto the ground where a pool of water had developed in their room, while they slept.

"I personally feel they don't know how to handle the situation considering they have done nothing to compensate us and have done nothing to fix the problem," said Sarkis. "So if anything, I don't feel the response was rushed at all, I just feel like they don't know what to do."

Some of the students suggested that the pipes had burst due to their heat not working for a significant amount of time-- a complaint that many residents of the building have complained about whether they have been affected by water damage or not.

"We are still investigating the root cause and depending on what is determined that will dictate how we proceed in taking

preventative steps," said the university spokesperson. "This is not something that has happened previously. It was not a case frozen pipes bursting. We will look at the results of the investigation and then determine the best plan going forward."

For more photos and videos of the damage, visit [thesuffolkjournal.com](http://thesuffolkjournal.com)

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# What in the world leader?

## Global Commentary: The weight behind Kim Jong-Un's nuclear threat

Amy Koczera  
Journal Staff

Over the past few weeks, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has visited South Korea, Japan and China to discuss North Korea's nuclear initiatives. According to The New York Times, Tillerson announced "all options are on the table" when it comes to dealing with these measures. Just two days after Tillerson's statement, North Korea posted a propaganda video on YouTube depicting a United States aircraft carrier and warplane being destroyed in a computer-generated explosion.

The caption stated North Korean missiles will be "stabbed into the throat of the carrier" and the jet will "fall from the sky." This rapid development of North Korea's nuclear arsenal has both US citizens and leaders alarmed. However, U.S. leaders do not have the most successful

South Korean president impeached, protests may be sensationalized

Jacob Geanous  
World News Editor

The presidential scandal that has continued to unfold in South Korea has reached a heightened level of drama that may even trump America's televised political circus.

Park Geune-hye, the former South Korean president, became the country's first democratically elected leader to be impeached earlier this month after a corruption scandal came to light, and now prosecutors are calling for her arrest, reported the New York Times.

Prosecutors allege that Park knowingly allowed her confidant, Choi Soon-Sil, to use her political influence with

reputation when it comes to confronting other nations about nuclear development.

Tillerson announced the US would take a "new approach" to dealing with North Korea's nuclear ambitions. Yet, Tillerson never described what the details of that plan would involve. Past U.S. leaders such as Barack Obama and George W. Bush made similar statements related to dealing with international nuclear affairs, describing how each approach would be new and different, yet failing to follow through with any kind of unique, ground-breaking plan.

"Someone forgot to tell him that a new administration promising a new approach it can't quite articulate is, in fact, the old approach," said Jeffrey Lewis in The Washington Post in response to Tillerson's announcement.

The U.S. government has a tremendous history of saying there is a plan, but never explicitly explaining what that plan is. It may seem frustrating to U.S. citizens to feel as if their government

is not doing enough. Due to this, there will always be the question of how much the government is withholding from citizens.

In situations where nuclear weapons are developing at such a rapid pace, many find it hard to believe that North Korea isn't a threat. According to The Korea Times, Kim Jong-un is believed to have spent more than \$97 million dollars to fire a total of 31 ballistic missiles. It's

hard to rationalize why a country would spend such a substantial amount of money building their nuclear arsenal if it's just an empty threat.

"They're such a big threat because they're so unpredictable," said Suffolk University history professor Ron Suleski. North Korea gives off the impression that they don't want anything to do with any other nations, yet they post threatening propaganda videos and conduct sporadic nuclear missile tests.

The U.S. is cautiously approaching this issue right now.

"In East Asia, American

Diplomacy is more important than it is anywhere else" said Suleski. China may know more about North Korea than China is willing to admit. It is possible that the U.S. also knows more about North Korea than the U.S. has divulged. For America to avoid losing China as an ally, U.S. leaders are cautiously acting as though they're making change, even though hardly anything is being done.

History has taught us that erratic and unpredictable behavior is the essence of North Korean government. Nuclear weapons can have catastrophic consequences and cannot be taken lightly. It is the U.S. government's responsibility to do more than just say they're making change and to take action before something ruinous happens.

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from the protests at Seoul's City Hall for fear of being punished.

She explained that if she was found taking part in the protests, she could be barred from the private university or even the country.

"Us exchange students aren't allowed to get involved in that," Barua said. "If we are in the place of protest we might be kicked out of the university were are at or banned from the country."

Protests are slated to continue until South Korea will decide on the next president in a special election on May 9, multiple news sources report.

Moon Jae-in, of the opposition Democratic Unity Party, is the frontrunner in opinion polls that were conducted shortly after the impeachment, signaling a possible countrywide swing to the left.

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to multiple news sources.

Earlier this month, eight justices on the country's Constitutional Court unanimously decided to unseat her during a ruling that was broadcasted nationally.

The video of the impeachment ruling immediately went viral on social media and is how many living in South Korea learned of Park's fall from grace. This included Tonny Barua, a Suffolk Broadcast Journalism major that is studying abroad at Yonsei University in Seoul.

The decision sparked massive protests at the country's capital, which, according to Barua, have been sensationalized by worldwide media outlets after two Park supporters were killed during a clash with police in the initial uproar.

"I have seen a bunch of people living in South Korea make fun of American news [and] how they are making a huge deal about it and how brutal it is," said Barua.

She explained that the protesters in South Korea are much more peaceful

and organized than those in the United States. They even have a schedule for protesting that breaks the day into segments for different groups to protest.

"I walked by city hall and people weren't looking intense," said Barua. "You don't feel like there is anything going on."

Barua said she has had to calm her parents down after they called her to tell her not to leave her campus because they fear it's dangerous.

"Everyone's freaking out in the U.S. for no reason," she said.

Barua said that she has stayed at arm's length



# Global Gateway's trip more than a vacation



Courtesy of Haley Clegg

## Alcazar de Segovia, overlooking the city of Segovia.

### Morgan Hume Journal staff

Suffolk University's Global Gateway program recently facilitated a week-long educational trip to Madrid, Spain for 28 Suffolk freshman.

Admiring famous works of art in the Prado Museum, stepping onto the field at the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, watching a live flamenco show and munching on churros con chocolate were just a few parts of the Spanish culture that the students were exposed to during their trip that explored another country and culture.

"The idea was to develop a program for freshmen students that would have a number of goals," said Acting Provost Sebastian Royo in an interview with The Suffolk Journal on Friday. "One of them is to expose them to an international experience. A lot of the students, most of them have not had experiences in other countries."

Students were exposed to all types of Spanish cuisine including squid-ink paella, croquetas and tortilla espanola.

Freshman marketing and global business major Sophia Romeo appreciated the opportunity to try the country's unique food.

"As a foodie myself, it was a great opportunity

to try new food and immerse myself in Spanish culture," she said in an interview with The Suffolk Journal on Tuesday night.

Their trip also included a tapas tour where they had a truly authentic experience.

"Through touring local spots we had the opportunity to taste traditional Spanish food, especially croquetas which were the crowd favorite," said Romeo.

Although the trip was packed with adventure, visiting Spain was more than a vacation. It was a cultural experience that showed them how people in another country live.

"I was really happy to go with this program because I felt I saw so much for only going for a week," freshman English major Ali D'Arcangelo said in an interview about her experience. "I would not have gotten as much out of it if I didn't go with the Global Gateway program because they created a busy itinerary for the entire week so we would be able to see as much as possible."

Few events were scheduled during evenings so students could explore the city and dive into the nightlife.

"I think it's important to acknowledge and learn different lifestyles than the one you are accustomed to, not just

on a personal level, but on a global scale. Understanding how people different than you operate can show you who you are or how you want to live your life as well as learn to be accepting of others," freshman global business and marketing major Anne Muise said. "Bridging gaps between cultures is so important now more than ever, too."

Students also took day trips to two Spanish cities, Segovia and Toledo, to see more of the country outside the capital, including the famous Aqueduct of Segovia.

Students were also able to build close relationships with Suffolk faculty members and students currently studying abroad. While many students from the group did not know each other in the beginning, by the end of their week they had formed friendships with one another.

"To be put in a group of people that you do not know and go to a foreign culture that you're not familiar with can be intimidating, but it ended up being a completely rewarding experience that I couldn't have gotten anywhere else," freshman international economics major Jordan Albrizio said after returning to Boston.

Royo hopes to expand this program each year, so that within the next three to four years every

incoming freshman will have the same opportunity that these students did.

"Ultimately our goal and our dream is that this becomes part of the Suffolk experience,"

Royo said. "That in their freshman year, they could have a unique experience that no other college offers."

Royo hopes that participation in the program inspires other

students to visit and study at Suffolk University's Madrid campus.

Connect with Morgan by emailing [mhume@suffolk.edu](mailto:mhume@suffolk.edu).

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## ARTS &amp; CULTURE

## Boston Ballet makes contemporary leaps and bounds

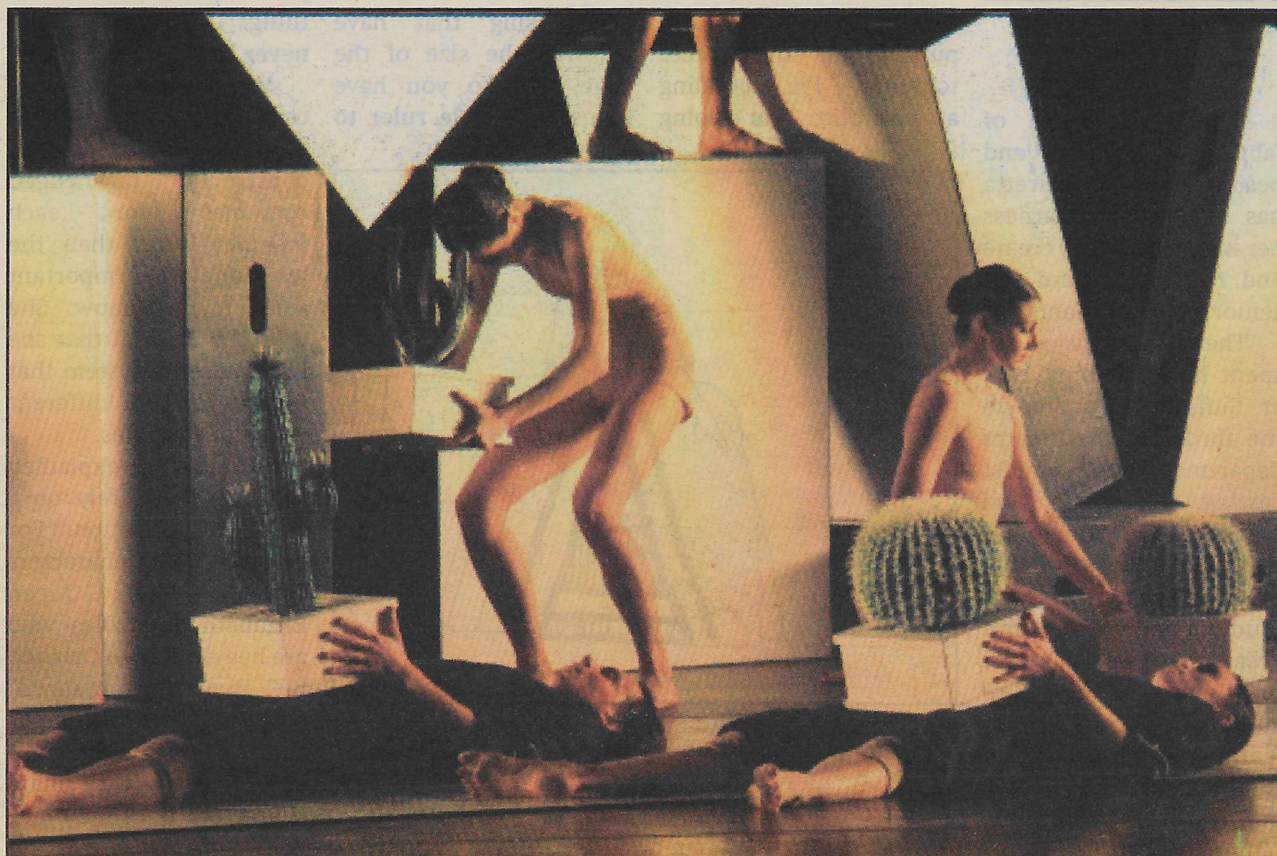
**Felicity Otterbein**  
Arts Editor

The show was a celebration and exposé of the human body. What seemed like a logical and methodical progression of a more traditional ballet to contemporary pieces turned out to be a pragmatic approach to the artform.

The first of the three performances was the light-hearted George Balanchine's "Donizetti Variations." Choreographed to the ballet music from act two of Donizetti's 1843 opera, "Don Sebastian." The performance features a principal couple, surrounded by an ensemble of three men and six women. This piece is flirty and funny and has some sugary-sweet components similar to that of "Swan Lake" or "The Nutcracker" performances. The color scheme is blue and pink cotton candy and the tulle

of the women's skirts was effortlessly beautiful. There is a real sense of innocence and naiveness in this performance, the shy and demure facial expressions goes hand in hand with the tip-toeing of the pointe shoes and the impeccable 16 turns from male lead, Junxiong Zhao.

The following performance is Jiri Kylian's "Wings of Wax." This piece has a much darker tone that is initially set when the curtain rose and reveals a dead tree hanging upside down from the ceiling. Circling the tree was a single spotlight which cast eerie shadows along the faces of the dancers and the limbs of the tree. It was in this piece that the contemporary tone for the night really started to settle in. While the precision of the dancers' movements are calculated and confident, this piece displays the musculature and strength needed to



Boston Ballet Company during "Cacti," a performance an Opening Night of "Wings of Wax."

Felicity Otterbein / Arts Editor

execute a performance such as this.

The finale and ultimate highlight of the night, is "Cacti." As

a nod to postmodern dance and criticism, this dance is almost ironically contemporary. The first half of the performance

is a rhythmic experience which involves 16 company members on individual tiles, mercilessly beating their

hands on the surface of the tiles and themselves to create this explosive sound. Accompanied by a See *BALLET* page 8

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# Stick a pin in it: preparing for "Orlando"

**Felicity Otterbein**  
Arts Editor

In a whirlwind of fabric, sketches and beading, Maxine Buretta has managed to harness her innate ability to create and focus it toward her senior thesis, "Orlando."

The theatre major has spent her last four years at Suffolk University in the throes of the theatre department, amidst casting, costuming and creating. She is familiar with the stages of the Modern Theater, Sullivan Studio and the once great C. Walsh Theater on Temple Street. The culmination of her learning experiences and time spent is now being put to the test in Suffolk's, "Orlando."

With a new title of costume designer, Buretta explained the process of creating the 35 to 40 costumes that would be featured in "Orlando." Faced with the challenge of tackling gender fluidity and the task of creating a scheme that would cover 300 years and multiple cultures, Buretta was up for the test.

Written by British modernist author Virginia Woolf, the show follows 17th century Orlando, the protagonist, through a series of gender and time changes. While the show itself covers more than 300 years of time, space and culture, Orlando only ages 36 years. Faced with this immense task, Buretta was excited to take on the challenge.

"I've been doing costumes in the theatre department for all four years that I've been in school," said Buretta in a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal. "We don't have a costume program in our theatre department, so it was sort of something that they were like, 'we want to have a culmination of all of the work that you've done thus far.' They proposed this to me as a thesis project, and that's sort of how we stumbled to where we are now."

Buretta has absorbed everything in her four years in the theatre department and has been working on improving her skills by learning from an assigned mentor, Leslie Held.

"Leslie has been teaching me how to build and construct these costumes and now I'm putting all the pieces together. I'm building a portfolio, I'm doing

her costumes with.

"There's lots of reference books that I've been using that have patterns the size of the page, and so you have to use the scale ruler to

have so much fun with prints and colors and so you can mix and match things that you would never be able to do now."

With such a large cast, Buretta knew that she wouldn't be able to construct full-fledged costumes for each member other than the leads and other important roles in the show. She told The Journal that she has devised a system that focuses on the different levels of the roles.

Buretta explained that the levels rely on a scale of "realization." For instance, main characters Orlando and Queen Elizabeth and roles who are heavily tied to Orlando will have "fully realized" costumes. Whereas

some people who might only interact with main characters once or twice will only feature a jacket and a hat.

The rest of the costuming and accessories are being bought or rented.

According to Buretta, many of her peers are

actually using this particular show as a graduate level thesis project.

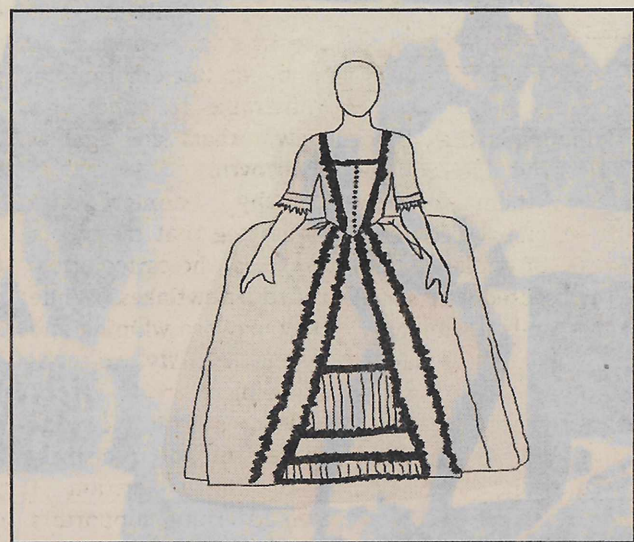
However with a cast of this magnitude, Buretta has remained nothing but upbeat about working with her peers. She said that the show has a lot of new people, new freshmen and sophomores that she hasn't had the chance to work with before. The costume designer has a very personal relationship with the actors because they are with them all of the time whether it be constantly fitting and refitting their costumes, or ensuring that the costumes work properly and don't malfunction while on the moving bodies of the actors.

Buretta did comment on the young talent of freshman theatre major Mickey Rodgers and her role as "Orlando."

"The part is so interesting because you have to be able to play both roles. You have to be able to play the man convincingly and the

woman convincingly, and I think she has the sort of naive-ness to her. She's so innocent and so sweet that you're like 'she's so pure,' when she's a man, but you can feel her femininity and it really shines through when she's a woman."

Outside of the theatre department, Buretta spends time with dance company, Urbanity Dance, and has also been working with Wheelock Family Theatre in their production of "Charlotte's Web." While most of her outside stagework is freelance, Buretta said that the freelance path is where she is headed for the time being. According to Buretta, she is taking any jobs that come her way, but is mostly looking for short-contract based jobs because she wants to learn as much as she can as quickly as possible.



Digital rendering of a sketch drawn by Maxine Buretta. An 18th-century inspired dress designed for protagonist Orlando.

a thesis project and building tons of costumes so it's kind of fantastic that all of these things are kind of coming together right now."

Buretta became involved with the department productions, and ultimately costuming, by helping out with the Fall and Spring Showcases that are put on every semester. Buretta worked her way up the ladder by assisting in all of the showcases amidst other productions, leading to the role of assisting the designers that the university would bring in to do mainstage shows. Now that she has established a name and place for herself within the department, she gets to design the shows, complete with her own assistants.

"It's been interesting with this show because the point is more so the gender, and really focusing on that," she said. "Some of the silhouettes have a higher neckline. We've been cutting those down a little bit to really amp up [Orlando's] femininity."

When looking for a specific design or pattern, designers can consult with compilations or pattern books. What Buretta struggled with initially was the fact that the patterns she was looking for were far too dated to possibly appear in any modern book, forcing her to begin with a basic pattern to create

blow them up to the right size," Buretta said as she explained how she has been able to create many of the costumes.

Buretta said that most of the dresses she designed for the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries have similar silhouettes that correspond to respective countries such as the United States or France. The dresses have big hip skirts, which the base she uses to begin a design for a female costume. Once she gains the approval of the director of the show, she proceeds to do what's referred to as a "muslin," or the base. Once that is constructed, Buretta is able to use that design to begin to cut and use real fabric to start making the actual costume that will be worn by an actor. Amidst minor fittings in between fabric selections and the use of the "muslin" is when the full outfit begins to form. After all of these stages take place, embellishments like the trim and zippers can be added. This final stage is where Buretta finds herself now. Unsure of her official budget, Buretta estimated that she's spent roughly \$1500 so far.

"I think the flair and your own personal taste comes in the fabrics that you use, and the trims that you choose, the silhouettes are what they are, there's not too much flexibility there but the people in the 18th and 19th century loved to

## Boston Ballet looks sharp; features contemporary dance



Felicity Otterbein / Arts Editor

Members of Boston Ballet Company during "Donizetti's Variations," the first set of the night at Boston Ballet's "Wings of Wax."

From *BALLET* page 8

string quartet, the dancers writhe and twist around their small squares, in a choreographed chaos. The title of the performance doesn't come into play until the second half, when all of the dancers rush off stage and return, each holding a succulent. They then construct this massive structure made from their individual tiles and proceed to duck and hide behind it, save two

dancers. Seemingly in the midst of a rehearsal of their own accord, narrated thoughts are announced over the speaker for both the man and the woman. It was incredibly funny, entertaining to watch and listen to what was construed as normal thought processes that occur in the minds of skilled dancers. All the while, a pretentious voice is overheard on the loudspeaker, lamenting in a monologue regarding "collaboration." The

narrator comments on this concept, "a world where we're not dancers, not musicians, but all members of the human orchestra."

Although the night contained a colorful array of modern and postmodern dance, the evening could not have displayed a smoother transition from one piece to another.

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## Discrimination:

### Our political sensitivity and intolerance of criticism

**Chaim Wigder**  
Journal Staff

A new popular debate strategy that has surfaced in the last few years, particularly since the most recent presidential election: criticizing one's opponent as a "sensitive" or "special" snowflake. The insult was first directed at the perceived hypersensitivity among students on college campuses, but has now come to be thrown around in response to virtually anything the younger generations might say that disagrees with the status quo, and is mostly thrown from the far right toward the left.

This isn't just another immature derogatory term. It also highlights a real problem facing both the right and the left: the inability to distinguish the criticism and exchange of ideas from intolerance and prejudice.

Demanding the same rights as everyone else does not make one overly sensitive, and

calling everyone who does a "snowflake" is a cheap attack that carries no substance other than furthering societal divides. At the same time, closing oneself off from opposing viewpoints -- offensive or not -- is indeed dangerous. Neither side should lose sight of what's important.

Our culture prides itself on its tolerance of individuality, yet some use it as a means of discrimination. As we make progress with equal rights, there will be more and more minorities who've faced intolerance and will demand to have their voice heard. This doesn't mean people are getting more needlessly sensitive; it means people are becoming more mindful of how we should treat others. Unique ("snowflake") or not, all people deserve to be treated with respect.

We must also be careful to acknowledge that people should be sensitive about the right things. A free and just society requires two essential qualities. Equal rights are surely the first. The other is the ability to freely criticize and exchange ideas. Unfortunately, the latter is often seen as incompatible with the former and therefore gets equated with intolerance. A striking example of this is indeed on college campuses, where invited speakers have increasingly been met with protests, human blockades - and at times violent riots - due to their beliefs, which, in a shockingly high number of cases, happen to be misattributed or otherwise distorted.

No doubt there are ingenuine trolls who have no place in an academic environment, such as Milo Yiannopoulos. Does he really have anything philosophically meaningful to add?

People whose primary goal is to offend rather than have

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Our culture prides itself on its tolerance of individuality, yet some use it as a means of discrimination.”

genuine debate should be ignored, although even they should not be met with violence. I am talking about otherwise respectable authors and academics who, as part of a civil conversation, criticize and exchange ideas without directly attacking any group of people.

When students shun them with abusive language or violence because they don't agree with them instead of entering the conversation themselves, it is no longer a conversation. If we attack everyone we disagree with, we become the intolerance we believe ourselves to be fighting against.

On the other side, there are those who say they are merely expressing their ideas while actually spouting hate or even just being unnecessarily hostile. You are not required to denounce your beliefs if they happen to offend people, but many in the so-called "alt-right" seem to simply enjoy mocking people during any discussion, and then follow up by defending their right that opinion.

While we should not shut down debate over hurt feelings, things like the term "sensitive snowflake," which is designed for the sole purpose of hurting people's feelings, should be abandoned. Besides, standing up against discrimination, bullying, and intolerance is something everyone should absolutely be sensitive about. Is that really an insult?

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## Another perspective: Who are you calling a snowflake?

**Katie Dugan**  
Asst. Opinion Editor

Millennials have a lot of negative stereotypes about them. We're entitled, lazy, we're numb to acts of violence and we're obsessed with social media and technology. But probably the oddest stereotype about us is that we are too sensitive and get offended easily.

Truthfully, we do tend to come off as a delicate bunch. Everyone seems to have an opinion about everything, and millennials are especially vocal about them, predominantly on our social media accounts. However we don't complain for the sake of complaining. The world right now is a disaster and there's plenty to complain about.

We did not invent awareness of social issues and being offended about things going on in the world. However, we did popularize social media. We take to social media to make our voices heard and one of the most prominent and successful millennials in the world, Mark Zuckerberg, has said, "By giving people the power to share, we're making the world more transparent."

When you disagree with someone is it more proactive to say, "no, you're wrong," or "why do you think that way?" Different perspectives and personal experiences are the foundations in which this country prides itself on, so why are we scrutinized for expressing discrepancies?

Last year, the term "sensitive snowflake," seemingly popularized by Republican political commentator Tomi Lahren, became the defining insult of 2016. The term began circulating social media as a way to demean young people for being too easily offended. Essentially, the term is used in relation to purported generational differences.

More specifically, it is directed toward people who became adults in the 2010s as being more

prone to take offense and less resilient than previous generations, or as being too emotionally vulnerable to cope with views that go against their own.

Baby boomers are forgetting that they were the ones who raised us so-called snowflakes. While they may see whining and hypersensitivity, we see it as being more aware of widespread ramifications of sexism and racism -- issues the generation of Donald Trump supporters appear to be ignoring.

Teenage rebellion used to be sneaking out late at night and listening to punk music. Today it is wearing pink hats and protesting. Donald Trump's presidency has brought to light some deep-rooted societal issues that had been swept under the rug. LGBT issues, sexual assault,

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Calling someone a sensitive snowflake is an easy way to diffuse the attention toward a challenged point of view.”

equal pay, affordable healthcare, are all part of the conversation toward new legislation and laws that would directly affect us.

We owe this awareness to the Internet. We have access to millions of different viewpoints at once. Despite growing up in a predominately white, middle-class town with a population of about 13,000, growing up with access to Youtube videos, blogs and tweets flooded my narrow world with opinions.

At the risk of being ironic, the act of calling someone a snowflake for disagreeing with you is insensitive in itself. It's another way of dismissing someone's opinion as invalid, and it almost seems like one step closer to gaslighting. Lahren called people who participated in the Women's March sensitive snowflakes,

and that seems quite contradictory, for an estimated five million people of all generations came together to stand up for their rights as human beings that are going to be threatened by the current administration in Washington D.C. That doesn't seem to be a hypersensitive act or behavior to me at all.

Calling someone a sensitive snowflake is an easy way to diffuse the attention toward a challenged point of view. To be fair, it is possible for people to read too much into messages and spark a controversial discussion when there wasn't one to begin with. But millennials are not the only generation guilty of that; everyone does it once in awhile. By telling our entire generation that we are being "sensitive snowflakes" is the same as telling us that our opinions don't matter. Silent opinions have rarely done anyone any favors.

If you've done your research and have your facts straight, your opinion is valuable, and you should never feel discredited because someone thinks you're being "too sensitive."

Older generations may say our trigger warnings and safe spaces make us spineless and incapable of dealing with the harsh realities of the real world.

This is such a narrow-minded way of looking at society and I do not think that negatively of the "real world" where we can't be progressive or educate ourselves to create a better and more accepting society for everyone.

Yes, the world is a harsh place, and in life you don't always receive what you want. I genuinely do not believe that millennials expect the world to be served to them on a silver platter, but asking to be understood and accepted should not be criticized. Millennials want the world to be more empathetic and compassionate.

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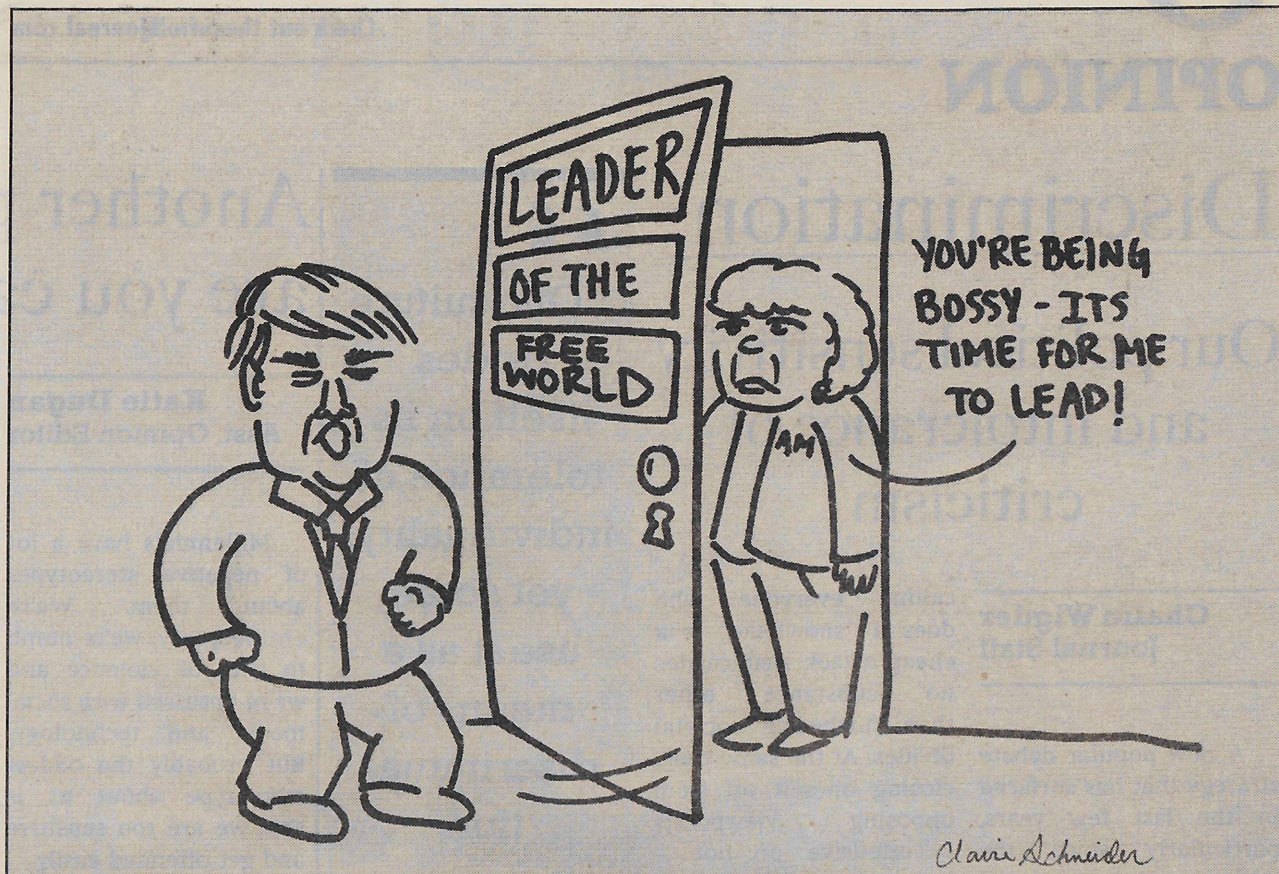
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Besides, standing up against discrimination, bullying, and intolerance is something everyone should absolutely be sensitive about.”



## EDITOR'S WORD

*A stigma of detest and abhorrence has rooted itself in the core of the political sphere. Everyone has failed to see what's right in front of them; not only are a bulk of people incorrect and misinformed nowadays, but they are aimlessly and inappropriately disputing any opposing side for the sole principle of winning a debate--without firmly and accurately standing up for their so-called idealism. The focus has shifted from a fixated belief, to a selfish desire for power and gain. Whether a liberal, conservative, independent or affiliate to another ideal, there has been a shroud covering any political atmosphere.*

*As student journalists who take pride in our integrity, especially at this stage in our career, this notion is completely disheartening. We cannot conduct thorough research and investigations without accusations of shattering ethics, or being labeled "fake news." The problem lies not with journalists. While there are inevitably media organizations who get clicks and page views as a result of deliberately unscrupulous "news," the integral and crucial facets of the media that correctly executes their jobs are under siege. The problem isn't us, it's some politicians, and those who thinks they are a politician because others have likened to their loud and empty blanketed statements.*



Claire Schneider/Political Cartoonist

## Angela Merkel: How a woman defines a country

**Kaitlin Hahn**  
Journal Contributor

Arguably the new Leader of the Free World, the first female chancellor of Germany and the De Facto Leader of the European Union, Angela Merkel holds all of these titles in her third term. It seems that this once soft-spoken leader has persisted through with strong leadership to please both liberals and conservatives in becoming a champion of human rights for all.

The Leader of the Free World is usually given to the President of the United States, but to many on social media, the title now belongs to the Chancellor of Germany, according to the Washington Post. This title has been named as she has decided to run for a fourth term next year. Merkel was former President Barack Obama's last phone call while in office, which is being championed as a passing of the baton.

"That's a matter for the German people, but I value Angela's leadership," said former President Barack Obama in a speech in Berlin. "If I were German and I had a vote, I might support her." Based on the current political arena, it could be argued that Merkel and her strength as a leader not only of Germany but of Europe as acting leader of the Free World, would do very well in a fourth term as the Chancellor of

Germany.

Confined behind the iron curtain until age 35, Merkel grew up in a rural area north of Berlin. After the fall of the Berlin wall, she joined the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), eventually appointed as Minister of Women and Youth. Merkel was chosen to lead the CDU over her mentor Helmut Kohl in 2000. When she went on to win Chancellor in 2005 as the first woman to do so, it proved she is what Germany wanted and

needed for a leader.

"Even when she was awkward and shy, you could feel her energy, you could feel her power, from the beginning," Herlinde Koelbl, arguably Germany's most acclaimed photographer, said about recognizing Merkel's strength in 1991 when he started photographing her among other up-and-coming politicians, told Time Magazine in their article about Merkel as their Person of the Year for 2015.

Merkel is known for her slow but precise way of coming to decisions. This was shown during the possible collapse of the European economy as a result of the bankruptcy of Greece. Correlated with the refugee crisis, she was able to lead not only Germany, but all of Europe. This solidifies her position as the de facto leader of the European Union (EU).

In 2009, Greece announced it lied about its finances for years, was immediately shut out from borrowing from any market. In response, Merkel, taking lead of the EU, made Germany the biggest lender of rescue funds to Greece. However, Merkel imposed strict conditions, including new reforms on taxes, pensions, and the labor market. While this was a struggling story for Greece, these actions by Merkel helped save the EU from falling into complete economic instability.

By the end of 2015, Germany had taken in close to 890,000 refugees

who were fleeing to Europe in order to find security and stability from their nations. This dramatic influx of people caused a shock that shook not only Germany but the entire EU to its core. At the head of this stood Merkel, where she proved her strength as a leader when she challenged the politics of her own party in favor of the moral reasoning by declaring Germany be a welcoming country, open to refugees.

Even though Merkel received backlash from her decision to open up Germany, in retrospect, she apologized, but not for opening up the borders. "If I was able to, I would turn back time by many, many years, so that I could have prepared the whole government and the authorities for the situation which hit us out of the blue in the late summer of 2015," said Merkel in a press conference on Sept. 18 addressed her refugee policies. This showed Merkel is strong enough as a leader to stand by her choices, and deal with the consequences, despite criticism from others.

Despite her popularity rates fluctuating due to both the financial crisis in Greece and the refugee crisis, Merkel has been able to keep a steady positive presence in the political arena through her moral leadership and overall powerful mindset, proving her to be a strong political leader.

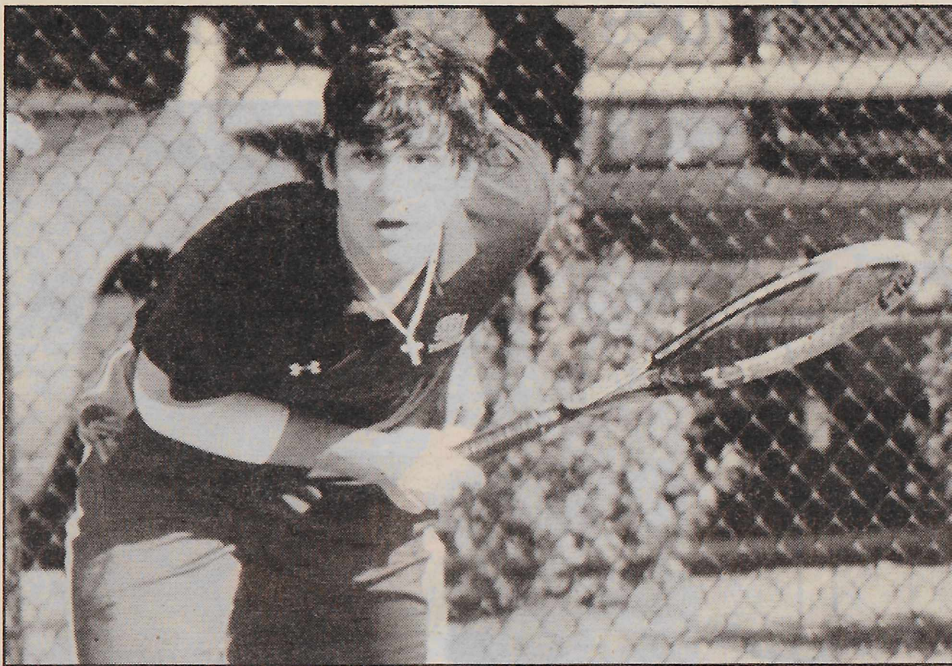
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Based on the current political arena, it could be argued that Merkel and her strength as a leader not only of Germany but of Europe as acting leader of the Free World, would do very well in a fourth term as the Chancellor of Germany.



# Rams set to make a racket



Courtesy of Suffolk Athletics

**Pictured: Second-year men's tennis captain Francesco Saia**

## Brooke Patterson Asst. Sports Editor

After missing out on the post-season tournament in 2016, the men's tennis team looks to make a return appearance to the Great Northeast Athletic Conference

(GNAC) tournament this time around, opening their season Thursday against the University of Massachusetts Boston at 6:30 p.m. The Rams hope to go as far as the championship, which has not been done since their 2014 season.

The men's tennis team was selected third in the

GNAC North Division preseason poll by the league's head coaches and look to have a strong season on the court.

"We are going to make a full effort this year to win the championship and bring it back to what it used to be," said second-year captain Francesco Saia in an interview with

The Suffolk Journal on Tuesday afternoon.

The team finished last season with an overall record of 3-9. The three teams the Rams were able to outscore were Wheelock College, Rhode Island College, and Curry College and all three appear on their schedule this season.

"We had a lot of new players last year and it was a development season for us," said sophomore Rami Esrawi in an interview with The Journal on Monday. "We are looking to build off of that this year and hopefully make it to the championship."

The initial scheduled start date for the Rams first match was March 23, but due to inclement weather, the season opener was postponed to an unannounced date. Although the matches were anticipated to start recently, the team has been practicing for about a month, focusing on their game mechanics as well as setting aside 15 to 30 minutes of

each practice to work on mental conditioning.

"Tennis is really a mental game," said the business management major, Esrawi. "I think it's a big part. If you miss a couple shots, don't worry about it. You just have to play your form, play your style, and you'll win matches."

Senior finance major, Saia said he is sad that it is his final season on the team, and it will be especially tough this year, because he will compete this season without the coach who had stood by him during his past three years at Suffolk University, Steve Counihan. The Rams obtained an interim head coach in place of Counihan-Isaac Stahl.

Stahl did not respond to communication with The Journal regarding this article as of late Tuesday night.

"I think we can go far," said Esrawi. "We want to win it for our head coach [Counihan] this year."

While improving everyday and hoping to

come out on top of their conference, the Rams have the expectation to win the championship this season. They also hope to win their most difficult matches against Johnson & Wales University and Norwich University.

"Basically we work that it's one match and one practice at a time," said Saia. "If you got off the court knowing that you did better than the last day then you did your job, and you did it correctly."

With noticeable improvements from last season, Esrawi said how everybody on the team gets better every single day and is dedicated and committed to the team.

"We want to improve every single day, that way when we have our first match and especially have our first conference match, we really show who we are," said Saia.

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# Bruins fundraise \$100k to fight pediatric cancer

## Skylar To Sports Editor

With six games left in the regular season, the Boston Bruins are still looking to secure their spot in the playoffs, but they will be doing so with a lot less hockey hair-- the flow.

On late Monday afternoon, the Bruins and 98.5 The Sport's Hub hosted its 10th Annual Cuts for a Cause to raise money to fight pediatric cancer at the House of Blues in Boston. The Bruins partnered with Super Cuts to grant fans the opportunity to bid and shave the heads of their favorite players. The players, winning bidders and fans helped to raise \$101,000 by the end of the night for more than \$700,000 raised within the decade. The event's proceeds were donated to the Boston Bruins Foundation and Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center.

On the behalf of the organization, Executive Director of the Boston Bruins Foundation Bob Sweeney said the Bruins staff owe a "great

gratitude to all of the players."

"It's hard to believe it's been 10 years," said Sweeney. "I honestly want to thank everyone for all of their time and effort. It really shows their dedication."

Nine years ago, forward Patrice Bergeron wanted to participate in the first year the event kicked off and shave his hair for a "good cause." The event was led by former Bruins defenseman Aaron Ward for two years and former Bruins forward Shawn Thornton who took over for several years before he was traded. On taking over the event and keeping the annual tradition running for the third year, Bergeron said that "it is amazing to participate and give back."

"It's been a great response from fans to get involved," said Bergeron. "[The event] is easy for us to do and it goes a long way to raise awareness."

Bergeron and 98.5 The Sports Hub shared that the event started in the basement of the sports radio station and evolved to bigger venues like the Boston Park Plaza Hotel and the Westin Boston



By Twitter user @NHLBruins

**Nine-year-old Brodie who was diagnosed with lymphoma in May 2016, shaved Boston Bruins forward Patrice Bergeron's head at the 10th Annual Cuts for a Cause.**

Waterfront Hotel over the years to the House of Blues this year, which is "the best venue" they have had. In its first year, the event raised \$25,000. Since 2014, the event has raised more than \$100,000 every year.

Sweeney thanked Ward, Thornton and Bergeron for their participation in "such a great cause."

"Without the players, this could not be possible," said Sweeney.

Bruins defenseman

Torey Krug found himself in a similar situation to Bergeron in his rookie year several years ago. In his rookie year, Krug said that he signed a contract with the Bruins right before the event. Besides participating in the event

to become a part of the team, Krug joked that he wanted Thornton's protection on the ice.

On his experience and participation every year, forward David Krejci said that he has seen "every single side" of the event-- from shaving the heads of fans to donating money to getting his own head shaved.

Forward Riley Nash, who was acquired by the Bruins last summer, said the event is "pretty awesome" and "pretty cool to see."

Besides chopping off hair for a good cause, talks about the playoffs also surfaced at the event. Nash, who played for the Carolina Hurricanes for four years prior to being traded to Boston, said competing to make the playoffs has "been an adjustment for sure" as he did not see a playoff scenario in his time in Carolina.

"Being in Boston and seeing how passionate fans are about hockey, you want to [make the playoffs]," said Nash.

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## Rams welcome 70th season, continues program success



Brooke Patterson / Asst. Sports Editor

From left to right: Head Baseball Coach Anthony Del Prete, pitcher Mark Fusco, first baseman Kevin Belskie and pitcher Chuck Gibson.

### Hannah Arroyo Journal Staff

For many college athletes, their involvement sports stops right after graduation day. This was not the case for Suffolk University's current Head Baseball Coach Anthony Del Prete.

Del Prete started out as a student athlete for the baseball team at Suffolk where he pitched four seasons with the Rams.

As a player, Del Prete had a 21-11 record and in 2002, he helped bring his team to the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament. He was named the conference Pitcher of the Year.

After graduating in 2004, Del Prete spent three years playing professionally in the Frontier League for the Evansville Otters. Del Prete was named assistant coach on the Rams in 2004. In 2008, he also served as the Sports Information Director for Suffolk where he oversaw the athletic department website and publicity.

"I enjoy watching the players develop over the course of their four-year career and take great pride in watching them come in and then leave as men," said Del Prete in an interview with The Suffolk

Journal on Friday. "It's a fun place to be given the school's location and it's an easy place to work given the people who you are surrounded by, both students and professional staff members."

This 2017 season, the Rams celebrate their 70th anniversary.

"I would say the program has evolved with the quality of student and geographic expansion of our roster," said Del Prete. "A lot has to do with how Suffolk University has grown as an institution from being a regional inner city school to be a nationally recognized school. This has helped our recruiting efforts and also added depth and quality to our roster."

Suffolk attempted to organize a baseball program as early as 1937 where the team held practices in the Boston Common. Shortly after, the program was discontinued due to World War II.

A more official club team was set in place in the spring of 1947 by former Athletic Director Charles Law. He tried to revamp sports at Suffolk and put in place basketball, hockey, golf and soccer programs too. Law himself coached the baseball, golf and basketball teams.

"When he came to Suffolk [Law] really

was the individual who created sports," said former Suffolk Athletic Director James Nelson in an interview with The Journal on Monday.

The program gained much attention as over 70 students came to try out for a chance to play. These numbers would continue to rise as the next year nearly 92 students tried out for the team. Law was the first to coach the team and organized a twelve-game schedule that included matches against Tufts University and Clark University.

As Suffolk had not yet been given the Ram as an official mascot, they were referred to as the "Royals" for their royal blue school color.

Nelson explained how he had seen the baseball program evolve since he started as the athletic director.

"Now that we're members of the GNAC, all of the baseball and softball teams are doubleheaders for conference games," said Nelson. "That certainly has been significant playing those number of games."

Jay Parker, current head coach of the Women's Golf team, previously spent 19 years as the assistant coach of the baseball team.

Parker said in an interview with The Journal on Wednesday

that starting in 1999, the team was often referred to as the "Mutts" when he was coaching.

"When fields were available we would just show up and practice," said Parker. "Since [McConnell] has taken over the programs have increased and the facilities have increased. Things in the past few years have just been outstanding"

With the addition of East Boston Memorial Park in 2015, Suffolk finally had a field to call their home.

In Suffolk Baseball history, the program has had only six head coaches. These coaches include Law, George Doucet, Tom Walsh, Joe Walsh, McConnell and Del Prete, who heads into his third season coaching the team this year.

So far as a head coach Del Prete has helped his team achieve back-to-back GNAC Championships in the past two seasons. In the 2016 season his team recorded an overall record of 33-13, which is the second best in program history.

"Our players are not afraid to be pushed and challenge themselves," said Del Prete, "I believe the strength of what we have been able to accomplish is a direct result of the maturity of our players and their ability to grow and

develop their character throughout the course of their four year career from when they start here as freshman to when they finally earn their degree after four years."

McConnell leads the baseball program with an overall best of 38 victories in a season that his team successfully won in 2000. All the team's former coaches have winning records, but so far McConnell has taken home the most victories for a coach in the program with 479 wins.

"The consistency in the coaching staff reiterates to consistency on the field as well," said Parker. "We're all on the same page all the time."

Senior pitcher and captain Chuck Gibson said in an interview with The Journal on Friday that he sees continued success from his team each season. He said that because of this a lot of talented young players have decided to come to Suffolk.

"There has been a culture here to expect to win and to dedicate ourselves to this game and our teammates," said Gibson. "That culture is passed down class by class and is still going strong. I feel like it is my duty before I graduate [this May] to instill that culture in the underclassmen." Today, Suffolk leads

the GNAC Conference with 975 overall wins, 208 GNAC wins, 68 GNAC playoff games and 48 GNAC playoff wins.

Senior and first baseman Kevin Belskie said in an interview with The Journal on Friday that the Suffolk baseball program is trying to become known nationally.

"The history of the program is that hard work breeds success. Previous teams have paved the way for us to be where we are," said Belskie. "Weathering the ups and downs of the season and staying even-keel will put us on top at the end of it."

Junior and pitcher Mark Fusco said in an interview with The Journal Thursday that the upperclassmen on his team have taught him that it's a privilege to wear the Suffolk jersey. He said that he sees nothing but success for this program in the future.

"With [Del Prete] this team has endless opportunities for success," said Fusco. "After being named head coach two years ago you could tell that Coach Del Prete has been involved with the game of baseball his whole life and it is something he loves to do."

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